

**Perley Lutheran Parish**  
**PO Box 379**  
**Perley, Minnesota 56574**

# January Newsletter

**Perley Parish:**

Website: [Perleyparish.org](http://Perleyparish.org)

Email : [Perleyparish@gmail.com](mailto:Perleyparish@gmail.com)

Kirkebo Phone: 218-861-6541

Nora Phone: 701-860-6681

**Pastor Michele Jenson:**

Email: [Mjenson001@luthersem.edu](mailto:Mjenson001@luthersem.edu)

Phone: 701-261-0998

**Perley Parish Food Shelf**

**Open 5:00-7:00pm Thursdays**

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I have to be honest, I'm a bit sad that Advent is over. I know it was different this year but I actually really enjoyed it a bit more than usual. I think because we were more intentional in our planning, more peaceful in our scheduling and quite frankly, more relaxed in the hustle and bustle we are usually dealing with during the holiday season. I mentioned to a friend this week how I actually think it was one of my favorite Christmases in that we weren't running from this spot to the next spot and trying to fit all of the parties, gathering and activities in to one jam-packed month or so. My Christmas of course lacked my extended family and while the Candlelight service was beautiful and had tremendous meaning, it was just not the same without seeing all of your faces in the candlelight of the church pews. Believe me, there will be quite a celebration next year when we fill our churches but for this year – we had to fill our hearts instead with patience and acceptance and love and gather together virtually.

As our world continues to progress in its fight against this pandemic, it is my hope that we are just weeks away from gathering in-person and worshipping once again as brothers and sisters in Christ TOGETHER! Please continue to be safe and practice all measures asked in order for us to return much sooner than later. I look forward to seeing you in the church – oh what a glorious time that will be!

Happy New Year and I look forward to 2021 with you!

Pastor Michele

## **WOW – what an Advent!**

It was of course not the Advent and Christmas season we had hoped for but we must acknowledge and lift up all of those in our congregation who shared their gifts and talents to make our services special and meaningful.

What a testament to our members in how they gave of their time, their talents and their expertise (thanks John!) to make our services simply beautiful, heartfelt and spirit-filled! Thank you to everyone who helped!!!

## **January On-Line but we need your help!**

We will continue to only have streaming/recorded services through the month of January. The Councils met Mid-December and determined it was best to hold off in January to ensure that we didn't see an increase in cases over the holidays.

We will be reaching out to families to check in on how they are feeling about returning to in-person services in the coming two weeks so watch for your call. The councils will be again meeting mid-January to determine the plans for February.

## **Annual Meetings moved to February**

**Nora Annual Meeting** will be held Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:45.

**Kirkebo Annual Meeting** will be held, Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:45.

*All Committees are asked to have your annual reports in to Kristy no later than January 31<sup>st</sup>.*

## **Confirmation 2020-2021:**

It is imperative that Pr Michele be notified of who will be in confirmation (youth in grades 7-9) as soon as possible. Confirmation classes will begin Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup> – 9:45 – 12:00 at Nora. Schedule will be coming for the rest of the year once we are certain on the worship schedule.

PLEASE email Pr. Michele at [mjenson001@luthersem.edu](mailto:mjenson001@luthersem.edu) or call/text her at 701-261-0998 if you have a child that will be in confirmation NO LATER than January 13<sup>th</sup> so supplies can be purchased for everyone.

## **In our thoughts and prayers:**

Jeff Loe, Kirk Stevenson, Paxley Vettleson, Veronica Gunderson, and Lisa Flaherty. *IF we have missed someone please let us know so we can update this list.*

## **Helping our Digital light shine .....**

extended a bit longer

We are doing well on our fundraising but still need your help! The congregations of Kirkebo Lutheran in Perley, MN and Nora Lutheran in Gardner, ND are looking to you to continue to share their light and services with their neighbors now and in the future. We have hit just over the half-way mark of our goal of \$5,000, thanks to a donation in memory of Howard Rensvold.

We have decided to extend the request through January 24<sup>th</sup>. Please consider helping us to meet our goals and keep our light shining.

You can find the Go Fund Me by searching for Kirkebo Lutheran or send donations to the Perley Parish Office.

## **Treasurer Found:**

Kirkebo is pleased to announce that Sandy Gjervold has filled the treasurer position beginning February 1<sup>st</sup>. A huge thank you to Carolyn Nelson for all that she has done as our current treasurer!!!

## **Merry and Blessed Advent Devotions**

Just a quick thank those that were able to catch the Mid-Week Devotions during Advent. It was so fun to share Holiday Stories and messages. We had weeks were over 200 viewed the message – what a treat! Watch for future Mid-Week moments to come in the coming months.

## **January at a glance:**

January 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sunday service - 9AM – from Nora  
January 10<sup>th</sup> – Sunday service-9AM – from Kirkebo  
Kirkebo Council meeting at 9:45  
January 17<sup>th</sup> – Sunday service – 9AM – from Nora  
Nora Council meeting at 9:45  
January 19<sup>th</sup> - Joint Council Meeting at  
6:30PM - Nora  
January 24<sup>th</sup> – Sunday service–9AM – from Kirkebo  
January 31<sup>st</sup> – Sunday service – 9AM- from Nora

## **Continue to invite!!!**

It is clear in this uncertain time that there are many people out there searching for hope and connection. Have you considered hosting a watch party on Facebook while we stream service? Maybe invite a neighbor or someone new to watch the service on line? The opportunities are endless as we seek ways to share God's love and the good news. Consider inviting today!